

Minutes of the meeting of the English Pharmacy Board - Open business

Minutes of the meeting held at 9.00am on 21st June 2018 in the Events Space, 4th floor, at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 66 East Smithfield, London E1W 1AW

Present

Sandra Gidley (Chair)
Clair Anderson
Nadia Bukhari
David Carter
Thorrhun Govind
Mahendra Patel
Ash Soni

Sibby Buckle (Vice Chair)
Martin Astbury
Elizabeth Butterfield
Sultan "Sid" Dajani
Hemant Patel
Aamer Safdar
Tracey Thornley

Guests

Professor Ian Bates
Sue Kilby (arrived 9.45)
Samantha Lungu
Nahim Khan
Isaac Gidudu
Shirin Alwash

Education adviser for RPS
Chair of Industrial Pharmacists' Forum
Darzi Fellow
Manchester LPF
Sussex LPF, undergraduate representative
Sussex LPF

In Attendance

Paul Bennett
Robbie Turner
Mair Davies
Chris John
Beth Ward
Neal Patel
Melissa Dear
Heidi Wright
Andy Cooke
John Lunny
Gareth Kitson
Professor Luigi (Gino) Martini
Dr Claire Thompson

Chief Executive
Director for England
Director for Wales and Interim Director for Education
Workforce Development Lead
Head of Faculty and Foundation
Head of Corporate Communications
Campaigns and Corp Comms Manager
Practice and Policy Lead for England
Interim Practice and Policy Lead for England
Public Affairs manager
Professional Development and Engagement Lead
Chief Scientist
Deputy Chief Scientist

18/77 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed EPB members and staff to the meeting and asked all present to introduce themselves. She invited visiting members to contribute to the discussion if they wished.

Board members were asked to make only one contribution per discussion to enable all members to have a chance to contribute.

The Chair informed the meeting that agenda item 21 (Community Pharmacy Future Project with Mark Ireland/Jane Devenish) will not be taking place as there is nothing new on this project to update, therefore the time will be used to have a substantive discussion on Sultan "Sid" Dajani's motion.

18/78 Apologies

No apologies were received

18/79 Declaration of Interests

The English Pharmacy Board noted paper 18.06/EPB.03. Board members were reminded to send in any amendments to their declarations to Yvonne Dennington and were also asked to state, in the interests of best practice, any declared interest at the start of the discussion to which it relates.

A couple of updates were received at the meeting, the paper will be updated for the next meeting.

18/80 Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2018 circulated as paper 18.06/EPB.09 were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.

18/81 Matters arising not specifically included on the Open Business Agenda

Hemant Patel raised the issue of Gul Root's presentation (item 18/45) and queried how the RPS would be following up, as there needs to be emphasis on population health and prevention not only medicines. Robbie Turner informed the board that we work very closely with Public Health England and continue to highlight and support the challenges faced by PHE working with the LGA in making the case for pharmacy at a local level.

Robbie added that he was part of the Public Health England Cardio Vascular Disease System Leadership Forum working on an implementation strategy. This group has the support of NHSE. Primary care can do much to help prevent, identify and treat CVD, this can have a big impact on mortality and morbidity.

18/47 (viii) - Sultan "Sid" Dajani asked if this item could be amended to:
PGEU – Sultan "Sid" Dajani reported that he did not attend the last meeting as *it clashed with the RPS Assembly meeting* but he will be circulating the report of this meeting. **(Action (1))**

There was some discussion around whether there should be a substitute representative for PGEU meetings to attend when Sid is not available.

Action 2: Give consideration to there being a substitute person for attending PGEU when Sid is not available.

18/49 Health Education and Workforce Training – there was some debate regarding the wording of the last paragraph on page 6 – it was decided not to amend the wording.

18/50 HEE – Regional Deans (North of England) – the North School for Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation has been formed and work is progressing. The Regional Deans will be leading this work. The pharmacy deaneries will follow the medical model of deaneries.

Questions were asked about the progress on the Research Ready programme.

Action (3): Robbie Turner undertook to report back on Research Ready at the next meeting.

18/51 Science Update: As no meeting of the museum and library has been held Sid was unable to raise the issue of NHS70. However plans are in place for celebrating pharmacy as part of the NHS70 celebrations. A meeting of the Library and Museum advisory group is being planned to take place within the next couple of months.

18/52 Campaigns – **Action(4):** John Lunny was asked to look into securing passes for the Political conferences.

18/82 Public Affairs and Policy Statements

Mental Health Campaign

The English Pharmacy Board **ratified** paper 18.06/EPB.11 following a couple of slight amendments regarding calling for a service similar to the NMS (page 6). This service for mental health needs to be a bespoke service therefore will not be exactly the same as NMS.

Discussion continued about the breadth of the campaign, some well made points were made regarding strong leadership, developing new models of care and population health. Robbie emphasised that it was important to initially focus the campaign on 3 key asks in order to get traction and support as the mental health agenda is huge. Currently the campaign has received a lot of support from stakeholders.

18/83 Updates from Team England

The English Pharmacy Board **noted** the update papers 18.04/EPB.08 (i) – (ix).

- (i) Local Engagement – noted.
Action (1): Further discussion needed with board members regarding assignment of geographical areas.
- (ii) Public Affairs – noted.
- (iii) Policy and Consultations – noted.
- (iv) Digital (IM&T) – noted.
- (v) Medicines Optimisation – noted. Update on RMOC – Tracey Thornley continues to update the Board as and when there is news. RMOC London is leading on work on polypharmacy. Liz Butterfield now shares a joint role with RMOC South. The EPB now has direct links into 3 of the 4 committees.
- (vi) Pharmacy Public Health Forum – To date there is nothing to report.
- (vii) Innovators' Forum – noted
- (viii) PGEU – information circulated in advance of the meeting.
- (ix) FMD – **Action 2:** Sue Kilby offered to update the board outside of the meeting.

18/84 RPS restructure update

Paul Bennett gave a brief update on progress to date with the new RPS restructure.

Paul recapped how he had spent his first months at the RPS in listening mode before making any changes. The new changes were announced to the Executive team in May to realign the organisation with minimum disruption to staff.

Robbie Turner has been promoted to the role of Director of Pharmacy and Member Experience (takes up post on 2nd July) – pulling the functions of 5 directorates into one, with a focus on member experience. Robbie is currently recruiting for a new Director for England.

Gail Fleming has been appointed as the Director of Education and will be taking up post on 11th September.

The Finance and Resource Director has a wider remit which includes a project management office and corporate social responsibility functions, however the human resources (people) function will now sit directly under the Chief Executive.

Publishing under Alina Lourie remains much the same. However Jeremy MacDonald will now report directly to Paul Bennett as the Director of Technology for the RPS, bringing his learnings from the publishing digital platforms to the professional body side of the organisation. The Science and Research directorate will also report directly into the CEO.

The new role of Director of Innovation and Enterprise is a challenging role, focusing on new ideas, piloting them and then bringing the ideas into business as usual.

The Director of Business Development is the only role that has been put at risk. This reorganisation has been about realigning the organisation without destabilizing it.

The Board is pleased to see these changes, acknowledging that from now follows function, and that the member voice is being listened to. The Chair said that any queries regarding the restructure could be answered by herself, Ash or Robbie in the first instance.

18/85 Health Education and Workforce Planning

The Chair welcomed Ian Bates and Chris John to the meeting. Ian thanked the Board for inviting him.

He gave a short update on workforce saying that there is a global crisis with 18 million shortage in the workforce worldwide. Workforce planning has lacked the attention it has needed and there is no healthcare without a workforce. Workforce shortages are not just a UK problem, it is global with other countries experiencing similar problems.

The UK Government is aware of the problems and realises the correlation between investing in a health workforce with the health economy and the wider impact on the general economy.

Ian said the messages coming down from WHO is to focus on the mid level cadre across the professions (in pharmacy this refers to technicians and support staff). He advised the RPS to pay attention to the what/where/how questions to better align the workforce to give long term benefits to patients.

Chris John said that a workforce development group for technicians is currently being set up. This work will link in with the recent work on developing the role of the pharmacist.

Nadia Bukhari expressed an interest in being part of this group.

The consultation on the “role of the pharmacist” was launched in January. From the responses received it is hoped that the role of the pharmacist can be distilled into a statement of the core attributes of the pharmacist. Each sector could then adapt the statement to suit. It has been an ambitious and challenging project but it is hoped that a statement will be ready ahead of the GPhCs launch of the training standards for pharmacists.

Discussion continued on workforce with various points being raised:-

- How pharmacy uses support staff – recognition and training of accuracy checking technicians to provide higher level technicians
- Where will the workforce come from? – engage early with schools at GCSE and “A” level stages
- Inter and intra professional working – greater understanding needed

- Workforce development models exist in other countries – progressing faster than the UK – take the learnings
- Education and training solutions are available
- Dental colleagues have 6 separate roles regulated – pharmacy only has 2 (Ian Bates is currently looking at their competency frameworks for all 6 levels)
- WHO advise – stop training for jobs – train for a competent, flexible and adaptable workforce

Mair Davies gave a short update on work currently going on within the directorate

Action 1: Circulate Mair's slides :-

- Foundation programme and early careers - project is going ahead at pace – has government support – stewardship by RPS. Funding is expected from NHSE. Sarah Cox, the programme manager has been appointed. First meeting of the oversight board is scheduled for the beginning of September. Peter Kopelman and Paul Bennett met with the workforce development group (NPA/CCA/AIMp) and presented the programme to them – important to have employers input and support. Malcolm Harrison is helping to facilitate this relationship. There are plans to meet with the managed sector too. It was suggested that more experienced pharmacists and those returning to work also need a foundation programme.
- Faculty – 1st wave of faculty members are now ready for resubmission. An annualised model of maintenance is being considered.
- Ian Bates has been appointed as the Chair for the Faculty Education & Training Board sub-committee on Foundation curriculum & assessment– work of this group is progressing well.

18/86 Update from Professional Development and Support

Ivana Kynight and Wing Tang gave a short update on the work of their directorates.

Action 1: Slides to be circulated.

Ivana said the support service has approximately 1000 calls per month dealing primarily with:-

- Revalidation
- Pharmacy legislation
- Pharmacy practice
- Professional development
- Developments in the profession

55 consultations have been identified so far in this year with 22 responses being submitted.

The library now has a small working space and offers information skills training to members. The small working space is welcomed and thought to be useful to encourage a study place. It was pointed out that the building is a working building and not like a traditional library. Previous surveys were undertaken when the

building was being redesigned and there was no support at that time to provide a proper study area.

The museum runs tours for many external guests and members.

The RPS accreditation service has had 10 accreditation applications and 10 endorsement requests.

Wing introduced the work on professional standards giving an outline and explained how they are aspirational, challenging professionals and provide better outcomes for patients. He described the process for NICE accreditation, saying that the process is not suitable for all standards as it takes around 18 months to complete standards. The 2018 programme includes the revision of the Safe and Secure handling of medicines (Duthie Report), Polypharmacy guidance and MEP edition 43. The community pharmacy standards are due to commence in September, under the NICE accreditation process, with a steering group being set up.

Other work includes resources being developed for the use of valproate in pregnant women.

Research on polypharmacy was commissioned by Keele University as they had been involved in this area of research for NICE. Claire Anderson said she was keen for universities to have equal opportunity to be involved in research projects.

This year there will be an e-book version of the MEP. There was some discussion around issuing fewer printed copies of the MEP. This will be kept under review and in time an opt-out function may become available.

Discussion continued regarding the under-use of library facilities by members and how services are not advertised more widely. The issue of merchandising was raised, but this will be taken up by the new Enterprise and Innovation directorate.

Standards and other guidance publications will have a more prominent place on the new website.

18/87 English Pharmacy Board Programme of Work including Campaigns for 2018 and STPs and system leadership

The English Pharmacy Board **noted** receipt of the presentation circulated ahead of the meeting.

Robbie Turner introduced these items saying that he would take both item 15 and 16 of the agenda together.

Systems Leadership: The English Pharmacy Board noted paper 18.06.EPB.16 on systems leadership. Robbie said the report has developed a snapshot of where pharmacy is currently, locally and nationally, with system leadership, and that there

is a lot more that could be done. The regional pharmacists are central to this work ensuring that pharmacy gains traction.

The team highlighted work that has happened since the last meeting which includes:-

- Successful Mental Health Campaign Launch at the House of Commons on 6th June
- Independent Prescribing Policy is now final and signed off and will be published next week
- There will be an evidence session on diabetes in September at the Innovators' Forum
- There is a new process for selection of consultations to respond to
- 3rd STP letter with a focus on care homes
- National medicines safety metrics – complex piece of work linking prescribing with patient outcomes

Diabetes campaign: The English Pharmacy Board noted paper 18.06.EPB.15.

Action 1: Board members were asked to submit their comments on this outline framework to Heidi Wright.

The evidence session on Diabetes is scheduled for 17th September – this has the potential to develop into a large event – Heidi is working with Nina Barnett on planning the day. Currently looking at whether it should be a multi-profession event.

Local Engagement: Gareth Kitson gave an update on what has been happening with local engagement. 10 ambassadors have been recruited, this is a shared role with marketing but it is hoped the ambassadors will make a difference with hard to reach LPFs and members, but their role is not in supporting LPFs. The role will be on a trial basis in the first instance. Ambassadors will be asked to attend at least 4 events in the year, some of these may be virtual. Board members said they would like to be involved at the events ambassadors attend. It was discussed that there will be no restrictions on board member involvement, some board members already attend events in their areas.

The induction process for these ambassadors is important and as Wales already have similar roles they are well placed to share their learnings. Wales will be providing a briefing paper and set of slides for the induction.

It was explained that the role of the ambassador is distinct from the role of the regional liaison pharmacists. The ambassadors will focus on members and non members, explaining the role of the RPS answering the question of “what does the RPS do for me?” and they will have more face to face interactions. The regional pharmacists have a role in systems leadership, integrating pharmacy at the strategy stage, encouraging leaders to include pharmacy into care pathways. The regional pharmacists will be attending the October EPB meeting. Nadia Bukhari expressed an interest in helping with the induction of ambassadors.

Revalidation: Gareth has attended more than 20 events on revalidation. He gave a session on revalidation at the Clinical Congress Conference, which was well received and it was encouraging to see the number of people interested in becoming members of the RPS because of revalidation.

Public Affairs: The Mental Health launch went well at the House of Commons and was attended by both the Minister and Shadow Minister for mental health. Thanks goes to Cathy Picton for the quick turnaround on the report of the round table in time for the launch. Stakeholder engagement and follow up of actions is continuing at pace following the launch. The RPS is now a member of the Equally Well initiative. A pharmacy visit for the Minister is in the plan of action.

Hemant Patel said he has done a lot of work in the area of Mental Health in North East London and is a member of a working group at national level and is happy to share this work with the Board.

Action 2: Hemant Patel to share the work on mental health in North East London

APPG: there have been a number of APPG sessions. It is noted that these sessions could be more effective, work is underway to improve attendance by MPs. The secretariat contract will be up for renewal at the end of the year.

Parliamentary drop in session: This session is currently being planned by PSNC with support from RPS, and thought needs to be given on how to sell this session into MPs.

Media and Communications: RPS has had 16 stories in the media in the past 12 weeks. The team is still managing to do a lot of reactive media, eg medicinal use of cannabis and calpol.

There was some discussion about the recent media story on over use of opioids (Gosport inquiry), and whether some form of response is necessary from pharmacy around patient safety. The RPS should exercise caution as this case could result in criminal prosecution.

Some media training is planned for the future. The Chair asked if some board members could be included in this training either for new training or as a refresher .

Action 3: Include Board members in media training – Melissa Dear

System Leadership: The context for this work is the Five Year Forward View. The FYFV refers to STPs and this paper sets out both where pharmacy is in this plan and steps on how to increase engagement, and the RPS role in this. This paper is an early draft of a concept and will be used as a basis for policy development and wider engagement.

The Chair said that this is a vital piece of work that should be added to the work plan.

The English Pharmacy Board **agreed** that this work should progress at pace.

There was some discussion around capacity to do this work and working with other organisations such as the AHSNs. The pharmacists' role in prevention and detection along with new emerging roles of pharmacists should also be part of this work.

Recent conversations with Steve Brine MP indicate that he understands the need for pharmacy involvement in systems leadership and supports a wider role for pharmacists in public health.

Next steps will be to build a report with recommendations based on the work of the regional liaison pharmacists.

Action 4: The current and future work plans of the regional liaison pharmacists will be shared with the board at the October meeting.

18/88 English Pharmacy Board Communications Plan

The English Pharmacy Board received an update presentation.

Action (1): Presentation to be circulated to board members.

The progress to date on the new communication plan is that it is working well and engagement has increased. Multiple channels are being used to communicate and good results of engagement are evident. Email opening rates have increased in relation to the care homes campaign and the website has seen increased activity for the ultimate guide on care homes. The mental health campaign has seen similar results regarding media activity.

Comms briefings are now issued before campaigns.

Board members are asked to re-tweet messages aligned to campaigns. It was suggested that a direct messaging list could be set up to remind board members to do this.

Action (2) : Create direct messaging list for tweet reminders – Viola Lewis

NHS 70: The comms team is supporting the Museum and the PJ with their initiatives to ensure the RPS has a presence. The museum and library will be using the archives and producing an infographic on pharmacy over the last 70 years. The RPS will be aligning its comms with the other pharmacy bodies focusing on coherence rather than duplicating effort.

There will be more face to face communications, which will be part of the role of the new Ambassadors. 10 have now been recruited and they come from a variety of backgrounds, from newly qualified to senior pharmacists.

There was some discussion about reinvigorating the special interest groups. Robbie said this would form part of his future work in looking at all the groups that are affiliated or partnered with the RPS.

Questions were raised regarding targeting the use of Health Services Journal. Neal replied that it is a target of the comms team to use the HSJ but generally there was a lack of interest from them in pharmacy stories.

There are plans for a RPS Innovation Digital Showcase Centre, a redesign of the “map of evidence”.

Now that the 4 regional pharmacists are in place a leadership blog will be created that describes how we have achieved success as well as what has happened.

Action (3): Board members to have a short workshop on social media at the next board meeting.

Hemant Patel made reference to a letter he had received from Steve Brine MP (circulated to Board members following the meeting) which talks about the importance of the pharmacy role, STPs, social care etc. He said it is important to work up a proposal to get government interested in in what we want for pharmacy.

The Chair replied saying that the Board has an ambitious workplan and that careful thought needs to be given as to where we can be most effective. Robbie thanked Hemant for the intelligence sharing which will help us in our endeavours.

The Chair thanked the comms team for the incredible amount of work they do with a small team, and said that while the focus was now on pro-active media there was no evidence to show that the reactive media was suffering.

18/89 Science Update

Gino “Luigi” Martini gave a short update presentation on the work of the Science team to date.

Action (1): Circulate presentation to Board members

The priorities of the team is to raise the profile of the RPS. Recently Gino has worked on the following issues, and works closely with the media team when necessary:-

- Sunscreens
- New agreements for the Science and Research Board
- TV appearances re counterfeit medicines
- Medicinal use of cannabis
- Careers events
- Winter summit – 8th February 2019 – inviting Dame Sally Davies
- Interviewing Sir Michael Rawlins on 27th June for Pharmaceutical Journal around the implications of Brexit for the MHRA, medicines development & pharmacy

The Chair thanked Gino saying that a lot of work was being covered considering Gino had a part time role at the Society. Evidence of a more joined up approach across the teams was good to see.

18/90 Women in Leadership

The Chair welcomed Clare Thompson to give an update on the forthcoming event "Women in Leadership" to be held at the Society on Wednesday 27th June 2018.

Clare said she would be chairing the meeting along with Nadia Bukhari. Mahendra Patel will be speaking at the event. There is a broad spectrum of speakers from across the profession.

The event is open to everyone, not just women. The event is about breaking down barriers and prejudices which apply to all sectors, also tackles gender inequality.

The National Association of Women Pharmacists have been involved in the event.

The event provoked much discussion in the room on topics such as bullying in the workplace, gender inequalities, minority ethnic groups, board member gender ratios and the glass ceiling.

There will be some tangible outputs from the day. It was highlighted that the event is about the issue of women in leadership, not who is attending.

18/91 English Pharmacy Board elections review

The English Pharmacy Board noted paper 18.06.EPB.20.

The Chair introduced the item saying that it was important to keep the conversation general and not to mention 3rd parties by name in open business.

Postal vote: Advice from the Scrutineers confirms that the process in place is as time efficient as it can be. Any move to abolish the postal vote could have further ramifications in disenfranchising some members of the Society and also in the opinion of the Scrutineers would not make much difference to the turnout. The time lapse between announcing candidates and the opening of the vote is to allow all the back office verification and checking of data to take place, this is quite in depth and takes time, therefore cannot be reduced further.

It was agreed to retain the postal vote.

Campaigning: Concerns were raised regarding active campaigning before the names of candidates are released.

Hustings: Concerns were raised over not issuing candidates statements ahead of the hustings. This is due to the fact that the hustings were brought forward this year at the request of the Board. Verification of all candidates information by the Elections team had not been completed at the time of the hustings. Candidates were advised by the Returning Officer to release their own statements.

It was suggested that LPFs could be used for engagement – but it was highlighted that few members used the forums for election engagement last year.

It was agreed that the telegram platform is not suitable for the hustings and more thought will need to go into this for next year, the use of the new website is to be considered.

The information to candidates document contains information on the role of the board members, it might be helpful to highlight this to members as then questions to candidates can be posed within this framework of role and responsibilities.

Use of RPS Logo: Robbie Turner said that it was almost impossible to police the use of the logo by candidates. We will be looking at the use of the logo as part of the election debrief meeting.

Information to Candidates document: This document will be strengthened in the areas of professional behaviour generally and when using social media in time for the next elections in 2019.

General comments:

Suggestions were made to set up a short life working group on the election process. Robbie Turner counselled against this as those involved in the group would have a vested interest, so the group would not be independent. The issues with the election were not primarily with the scheme but with behaviours of candidates and members.

It was felt that if there were to be significant changes to the election scheme these would have to go through a robust process, not a short life working group.

Discussion continued on this issue on whether or not there is a need for this group. It was generally agreed not to set up a group at this stage.

The issue of election expenses and the buying of social media posts was highlighted. Candidates who cannot afford to do this should not be disadvantaged. This issue will be looked at as part of the debrief session.

Paul Bennett said that Phase 2 of the Governance Review will be an indepth process looking at the governance issues of the organisation. Currently there are many rules in place but no sanctions for when the rules are broken, this issue will be addressed by this review. Paul added that he was dismayed to see the unprofessional behaviour by a small number of members on social media during the election process and followed up on this by issuing a statement (see paper 18.06.EPB.20). Other comments were that the negative twitter activity reflected badly on the reputation of the Society particularly in the eyes of other professions. Elected members presenting the RPS and the profession should act with pride and honour and when necessary act with restraint on social media.

Action 1: The following points will be raised at the election debrief session:-

- Election expenses / buying social media posts

- Use of logo
- Highlight role of the board member for hustings questions
- Consider timings and platforms for hustings in 2019

18/92 Any other business

1. Motion on Cuts to Community Pharmacy Remuneration – Sultan “Sid” Dajani

The Chair introduced this item and expressed her disappointment that this had been raised at this time bearing in mind that the issue of collegiality had been discussed on the working day and the fact that the Board always tried to arrive at decisions in a consensual manner. Also at the time of the pharmacy cuts the Board had spent a lot of time on deciding their stance and reaching consensus and working with other pharmacy bodies who found the RPS patient centred approach helpful.

Ash Soni and David Carter declared their interests as pharmacy contractors.

Sid welcomed the opportunity to raise this issue and stated his case, saying how damaging the cuts have been for contractors.

The Chair asked Board members for their comments after Sid had stated his case. After the board members had made their comments she said she had sought legal counsel before the meeting and had been advised not to amend the motion but to bring a second motion if necessary. After listening to the comments of the Board, the Chair read out the proposed new motion as per below:-

“The EPB wholly opposes and condemns the community pharmacy cuts. The Board has consistently been united in its opposition to the cuts and there has never been any dissent from the position taken. We continue to work closely with other pharmacy organisations and will continue to press for a positive and financially sustainable future for community pharmacy so that the public can benefit from a viable community pharmacy network, providing an increased number of patient facing clinical services.”

Sid agreed to withdraw his motion after being given the opportunity for a vote on his motion.

The Chair’s motion (above) was therefore put to the vote.

The Board voted **unanimously** in favour of the Chair’s motion (above).

2. Pharmacists’ Mental Health – Hemant Patel

Hemant Patel circulated a paper in advance of the meeting titled: Pharmacists’ Mental Health: Reducing psychological and financial stress in pharmacy and a way to build resilience and self-esteem.

The Chair said that due to time constraints (AGM following this meeting) the Board would not have time to discuss the paper in detail but she said that she felt the Board would support the broad thrust of the paper. She asked Hemant Patel which actions he would like to be taken forward and Hemant request that we write to the pharmacy Minister asking for parity of treatment with GPs in this matter.

The Chair said the Board were committed to raising this with the Pharmacy Minister and to engage with the NHS, employers and other pharmacy bodies on how pharmacists' health and wellbeing can be better supported.

Hemant said he valued the support.

Action: The Chair agreed to write to the Pharmacy Minister

18/93 Key Messages

The key messages from the meeting were:-

- The motion on cuts to community pharmacy remuneration
- Pharmacists' mental health

18/94 Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 16.20pm.

18/95 Dates of next meetings

EPB working day – 3rd October 2018

EPB meeting – 4th October 2018

The dates for the 2019 will be released following approval by the Assembly at the July meeting.

Board Members please note: All of the above dates are to be diarised across all EPB members. Board meeting dates are firm dates but Working Days will only be used at the discretion of the Chair and the Director for England.